1: Honigmann E-6 (1943-1945) 1949 ND12 Nahane ND12

A large portion of these earnings goes to pay back the credit extended by traders the previous fall. The balance is used by the family to live in Lower Post during the summer, at which time cash is paid for everything purchased. The record established by a man in trapping in turn determines the amount of credit which will be extended to his family the following fall to be used in purchasing food and supplies for winter consumption. Credit, however, is not the only factor determining the distribution of consumer goods in winter, since there is a limit to the amount and quality of food that can be transported to the settlement. The number of moose and other game animals which can be killed in the fall and winter also has an important bearing on the family's standard of living.

TABLE 8. MINIMUM ANNUAL REQUIREMENTS IN LOWER POST

Item	Price	Item	Price
50 lbs. flour	$ 5.00	1 lbs. oatmeal	$0.10
1 lbs. lard	1.00	2 lbs. butter	.80
2 lbs. tea	.70	1 lb. jam	.40
1 lbs. baking powder	1.00	1 lb. lard	.80
10 lbs. sugar	1.10	1 cakes face soap	.10
10 lbs. beans	1.00	1 cakes laundry soap	.10
10 lbs. rice	1.00	1 lb. chewing tobacco	1.00
1 lb. cheese	.70	1 lb. cigarette tobacco	1.00
1 lbs. dried milk	1.00	1 pkgs. cigarette papers	.10
1 lb. salt	.05	10 pkgs. matches	.10
1 lbs. barley	1.00	10 candles	.20
100 lbs. dog feed	15.00	10 large cartridges	2.50
8 lbs. dried apples	1.20	10 .22 cartridges	.80
1 lbs. raisins	1.00	Needles, thread, etc.	1.00
1 lbs. macaroni	0 .20		
			$0.50

Because money is generally plentiful in the spring after a family returns from trapping, the marginal standard of living is not generally apparent in Lower Post. Almost everyone has money to spend for new clothes, canned meat, fresh fruit, pies, doughnuts, cigarettes, candy, and whiskey or rum. An average family's expenses for these novelties in Lower Post amounts to about $300. Women, and particularly adolescent girls, spend a large part of their winter earnings for clothes, buying many blouses, slacks and jackets when they arrive in the post in the spring, or ordering these garments from mail order houses. Men and boys tend to confine clothes purchases to necessary items and generally secure them on credit in the fall. Their surplus money goes largely for alcoholic liquors.

In winter, the inequality shows up more sharply. A minimal standard of food living is given in Table 8. This indicates the amounts of food and necessary supplies which a family consisting of two adults and one child, and owning four dogs, requires in one month. The prices are for Lower Post and must be almost doubled for gauging living standards at a remote outpost like Frances Lake.

If the monthly cost is multiplied by the nine months that the average family spends in